

# USAID Progress Activity Report

## STRENGTHENING PROTECTED AREA EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT IN PERU

Project # 527-A-00-01-00157-00 under LAG-A-00-99-00048-00

Report period: March - June 2002

### I. Summary of Activity Status and Progress

#### *a. Introductory paragraph.*

During this report period, the PPO has made several critical advances towards strengthening INRENA's effective management capacity. INRENA has already begun to implement the Natural Protected Area (NPA) Scorecard, a comprehensive matrix for monitoring management capacity, which was developed jointly by WWF and INRENA. INRENA has adopted the Scorecard in all of its protected areas, and it appears that it will be an extremely useful management tool. Other efforts linked to the monitoring component of this project are advancing more slowly, but the PPO continues to work in close coordination with INRENA towards achieving project objectives. Each of the other proposal components, land tenure issues review and conflict resolution in the SINANPE and updating of the Paracas National Reserve (PNR) Master Plan, are progressing somewhat more slowly than originally envisioned in the operative plan, due to a series of difficulties, currently being resolved, that will be discussed below.

#### *b. Highlights.*

- The Scorecard for monitoring effective management of the Peruvian National NPA System (SINANPE), which was completed and revised by NPA personnel (Chiefs and park guards), NPA Bureau Deputy Directors, and the Peruvian IUCN Committee working group (International Union for the Conservation of Nature), has been run in 28 Natural Protected Areas.
- In cooperation with INRENA, the PPO has reprioritized our focus areas for the land tenure issues and conflict resolution portion of this project. Since INRENA received funding from other sources to finance similar efforts in some of our selected priority areas, the PPO decided to avoid duplicating their work by shifting the focus of our work to other areas.
- The Technical Team hired by the Peruvian NGO Pro Naturaleza continues to work towards updating the Paracas Master Plan. Working groups to develop specific strategies for updating the plan being formed.
- The bidding process to hire the consultant that will develop the Financial and Technical Sustainability Plan for the PNR closed and INRENA selected the winning proposal.

#### *c. Table of Activity Status*

Activity Number	Activity Title	Status	Page number for more information
1	Effective management and Monitoring System of SINANPE	Mixed-performance	
2	Land tenure issues review and conflict resolution in the SINANPE protected area network	Delayed	
3	Support for strengthening the Paracas National Reserve	Delayed	

## II. Detailed Description of Site Progress

For each site, please include the following information.

### *a. Key short and long-term program objectives for the site.*

Project goals will be accomplished through three main objectives:

1. Promote the effective management in all 52 protected areas within the SINANPE protected area network through the development of an overall monitoring system to gauge effective management and conservation action impact.
2. Review and resolve land tenure issues and conflicts within 5\* priority protected areas of the SINANPE.
3. Support the effective management of the PNR through the update of the Master Plan that defines priority conservation and threat mitigation activities and lays down a long-term financial and technical sustainability plan.

\* In the original proposal, the PPO aimed to ensure that ten protected areas have defined and demarcated boundaries, but due to complexities discovered through the priority-setting process (discussed below) this number was reduced to five.

### *b. Summary of Progress for Site* (if this provides added value or clarity, otherwise skip this)

### *c. Activity Description*

#### **i. Activity Title : Effective management and Monitoring System of SINANPE**

#### **ii. Summary of major achievements and progress**

- On April 29th, INRENA presented each NPA Chief with the validated Scorecard for protected area effective management. In each of the 54 NPAs, Area Chiefs were given explanations of how the tool functions, and agreed to run the Scorecard 3 times this year. To date, the Scorecard has already been successfully run in 28 NPAs, and will be run in the remaining 26 in July and August. Those that have implemented the Scorecard thus far report that the process has been useful. Although Scorecard implementation has been time consuming, taking on average approximately 6 hours, the discussion generated through the process of filling out the Scorecard has helped NPA Chiefs to obtain a global vision of management problems and conditions within Peruvian NPAs, and to set priorities for future activities.
- After being run in 28 NPAs, several Chiefs have made comments on the tool. The Scorecard will be revised based on relevant comments, as long as these comments do not significantly alter the already validated document.
- The information resulting from each running of the Scorecard has been systematized, and INRENA has developed charts reflecting current NPA management status (as compared with optimal status) for each NPA. This information will serve as baseline data that will be compared with information gathered in future Scorecard runnings.
- The Scorecard implementation plan is almost complete. The only information lacking is 1) that gathered during the recent Scorecard runnings and 2) a database currently being developed. Also, INRENA is working to increasingly automate the system so that it is more user-friendly.
- Based on the Scope of Work prepared earlier this year, the PPO hired a highly qualified consultant to complete recent PPO efforts to develop a Biological Monitoring System. This consultant plans to finish the System in the next reporting period.

- Substantial advances have not been made with regard to the development of the Overall Monitoring System. Instead, INRENA chose to prioritize running and finishing the Scorecard.

**iii. Table of progress in meeting key activity benchmarks**

Benchmark Number	Benchmark/Output	Status
1.1	Implementation of scorecard to Monitor Effective Management	
1.1.1	Validated and approved protected area management monitoring scorecard	Completed
1.1.2	Scorecard implementation plan and timetable for all SINANPE protected areas	Completed
1.1.3	Baseline data (year 2001) of all SINANPE protected areas based on scorecard application	On-track
1.2	Biological Monitoring System Complete	
1.2.1	Completion of a set of preliminary indicator species, communities and ecological processes	On-track
1.2.2	Completion of variable and indicator monitoring protocols	Delayed
1.3	Overall Monitoring System Complete	
1.3.1	Completion of SINANPE Overall Monitoring System	Delayed
1.3.2	Implementation of Overall Monitoring System and activities timetable	Delayed

**iv. Key management issues**

- INRENA has been unable to advance significantly on efforts to complete the Overall Monitoring System because these efforts are contingent on the completion of both the Scorecard and the Biological Monitoring System. Delays in completion of each of these products made advances on the Overall Monitoring System impossible.

**i. Activity Title : Land Tenure Issues Review and Conflict Resolution in the SINANPE Protected Area Network**

**ii. Summary of major achievements and progress**

- In recent months, INRENA developed a new list of priority NPA for land tenure review and conflict resolution. INRENA chose to modify their previous list because they received funding from other sources that was directed towards areas that the PPO originally intended to address with this project. In order to prevent duplication of efforts, and to ensure that funding is dispersed to areas with the greatest need, new areas were chosen. The areas selected for this project now include the Rio Abiseo National Park, Paracas National Reserve, Amarakaeri Communal Reserve, and two others that have yet to be selected.

**iii. Table of progress in meeting key activity benchmarks**

Benchmark Number	Benchmark/Output	Status
2.1	Digitalized maps and ground-truthing implementation plan of SINANPE	Delayed
2.2	At least 5 protected areas have defined and demarcated boundaries	Delayed
2.3	Protected area land tenure conflict resolution agreement documents	Delayed

2.4	Omnibus bill final draft	Delayed
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#### iv. Key management issues

- Initially, INRENA was unable to advance with this process due to lack of legal staff. The NPA Bureau then hired a lawyer and implementation of the activity began. Unfortunately, this lawyer resigned, leaving the project again without follow-up. In June, INRENA contracted a replacement, and the plan is now being updated again. In order to avoid further delays, WWF has decided to hire a lawyer to provide direct support to INRENA to comply with these component's goals and activities, since our on-staff lawyer has been overloaded with the urgent demands associated with implementing the Forest Law through Peru's first forest concessions process and has been unable to attend to these matters.

#### i. Activity Title : Support for Strengthening of the Paracas National Reserve

#### ii. Summary of major achievements and progress

- The Technical Team updating the Reserve's Master Plan has been moving forward along their projected timeline in order to finish the Plan. The consultants contracted to manage tourism, legal and resource management issues have been working in close coordination with the Technical Team. They have already developed several concrete products including, for example, an analysis of mariculture in the PNR, a biological and socio-economic diagnostic of the PNR, a legal framework for resource use, the technical dossier for zoning, and others – all of which will contribute to the Master Plan.
- The Technical Team, the Fisheries Ministry, the Peruvian Sea Institute (IMARPE), INRENA, the Fishermen Federation (FIUPAP), researchers, and the Health Bureau (DIGESA) met in June and developed a proposal to organize hydrobiological resource extraction activities in the area. This group considered factors such as fishermen registration, fishing restrictions among local fishermen, involving fishermen in supervision and control, and setting aside certain areas just for extraction (as opposed to mariculture), among other issues. The proposal is now pending discussion within working groups and stakeholder validation.

#### iii. Table of progress in meeting key activity benchmarks

Benchmark Number	Benchmark/Output	Status*
3.1	Technical Team hired	Completed
3.2	Paracas National Reserve Master Plan consulted, validated, and approved by DGANP/INRENA	Delayed
3.3	Financial and Technical Sustainability Plan (FTSP) validated and approved	Delayed
3.4	Paracas National Reserve Master Plan and FTSP published and disseminated	Delayed

#### iv. Key management issues

- The technical team's original timeline has been somewhat delayed, due to the fact that the Fisheries and Tourism Ministries had, until recently, not yet named representatives to address strategy development. According to the legislation creating the NPA, both Ministries are required to

participate in the development of the Master Plan. Now that the Fisheries Ministry has assigned a representative to oversee this issue, they will initiate activities focused on resource use.

- Due to staff changes, the Tourism group ceased its activities related to this issue. They hope to have a new representative named in the near future.
- In general, the coming elections are creating difficulties in terms of ensuring that environmental issues remain on the agendas of regional leaders. In recent months, politicians have been focusing efforts more on activities with direct social impacts in order to garner support for their personal campaigns.
- INRENA's bidding process took more time than originally anticipated, delaying the hiring of a consultant to develop the Financial Sustainability Plan. The PPO has now received and is revising the proposal, and will hire the consultant upon completion of this revision process.
- The PPO foresees a potential problem in that the technical team will not likely be able to complete their work before their contracts expire. It is essential that more funds be acquired in order to ensure the completion of the updating process.

### **III. Success Stories and Other Appendices**

When appropriate and possible, include one or more one-page success stories appropriate for public dissemination.